

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Matters Discussed at the Cabinet Meeting Today

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUILDING

Government Exhibits to Be Loaned to Charleston

COURTESIES TO GIRAN

At the cabinet meeting today Attorney General Knox talked with the President and cabinet officers as to the erection of a new building for the Department of Justice from such funds as are available from the \$1,000,000 appropriated by Congress several years ago. Mr. Knox is in doubt whether

available or whether he should wait and lay the matter before Congress at its next session. He is going to determine the matter soon, however, as he is to have a conference tomorrow with George B. Post, the New York architect whose plans for a new building were accepted by former

members were of the opinion that Mr. Knox would be able better than any one else to say what ought to be done, and so no attempt was made to reach a decision by the cabinet. The opinion was rather divided as to proceeding now rather than to ask Congress for additional funds.

The Charleston Exhibition.

By request of Senator Mc Laurin the cabinet discussed the question of loaning to the Charleston exposition the exhibit to be made by the government at St. Louis.

All the cabinet officers desire to permit this loan, and it was agreed that the loan should be made if there is no provision of law against it. The Charleston exposition will pay the expenses of the exhibit, and the government will do nothing but make a loan. The President and cabinet were glad to do this much for Charleston, which failed of any provision for its exposition during the closing hours of Congress. The President announced to his cabinet officers that he had decided to give a dinner on Thursday night to the Cuban commissioners who are now on their way to this city to discuss the loan.

The administration of the subject of this country, the President will give every attention to the Cubans.

The Secretary of War talked with the President about a modification of the military service as to employes in minor positions.

Nebraska Senators Call.

The President was engaged most of the morning before the cabinet met in a conference with Senators Millard and Dietrich of Nebraska. They were accompanied by Editor Rosewater of the Omaha Bee. The two new senators discussed a number of things, including federal patronage in Nebraska. There will be a number of changes in the federal patronage in Nebraska.

Among the President's other callers was Senator McLaurin of South Carolina.

Pardon in a Noted Case.

The President today pardoned Joseph N. Wolfson, who was convicted in the United States district court of Louisiana of being

Union National Bank of New Orleans and the embezzlement of \$60,000 of the funds of the bank, and who was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment. The case in 1906 attracted considerable attention. Wolfsohn was a prominent lawyer in New Orleans and was the man-shup of the bank in 1896, managing the deposits in the bank for many years prior to the embezzlement. When the funds Wolfson was charged with having obtained \$30,000. The long legal battle which today ended in Wolfson's perjury and the confession of the other defendants, a crafty and influential friends. The case was appealed to the circuit court of appeals which affirmed the decision of the lower court. The case was then taken to the United States Supreme Court on a writ of certiorari. Meanwhile Wolfson continued the practice of his law.

out of the Spanish-American war. Being then still under sentence, with his case still pending in the Supreme Court, he enlisted in the volunteers with the consent of the Attorney General and the Secretary of War, and served until February, 1899, when he mustered out. He then enlisted in the regulars and went to the Philippines where he served until October, 1900, when he was invalided home. In January of the present year the Supreme Court refused the writ of certiorari, and Wolfson then applied for executive clemency. Mr. Wolfson still has about one year to serve in the regular army before his term of service ex-

In recommending the pardon to the President Attorney General Knox said:

"He approaches you as a suppliant for pardon, asking that his brave deeds and shattered health be accepted as atonement for the crime for which he stands legally convicted. The history of the world is full of circumstances where transgressions of the law in cases of the gravest character and consequences have been condoned by signal public service in time of war or great emergency. Many cases may be found in the records of the past where a dead record

as a soldier brought immunity from punishment for previous transgressions. Had Wolfson's name been untarnished, his military services and devotion to duty at the

have commended him to you for Recommendation. This is not my own dedication. It is from Maj. Knight. If he has earned honor and advancement which it is not seemly to bestow, would it not be a peculiarly gracious act to remove him from the service as you can the consequences of his removal be met and therefore I would recommend that the application for pardon be granted."

Wolfson's family is one of great influence in New Orleans, and he has already received many high honors and decorations. He has five children, all in Europe.

Attorney General Griggs was adverse to a pardon of Wolfson solely on legal grounds, and so recommended.

This is the first case that Attorney General Griggs has taken upon. In his recommendation he quotes from some of the letters

high praise of Wolfson, who has been in Washington some time, attired in his uniform of a private.

The President has also granted pardons in the cases of Henry Gardes and Walter W. Girault, convicted in New Orleans in 1901 and sentenced to the penitentiary of Ohio for conspiring to embezzle funds of the American National Bank of New Orleans, of which Gardes was president and Girault cashier. The petitioners have been pardoned. Two years ago the sentence and upon the recommendation of the trial judge and the district attorney, who state that there is a universal sentiment in the community that the prisoners have been sufficiently punished, the pardon is issued.

Attempt to Rob Maine Bank.

WISCASSET, Me., April 23.—An attempt was made to rob the First National Bank here early this morning. The vault and interior of the building were badly damaged by fire, which broke out in the rear of the town, and the robbers fled, leaving